



MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana School Superintendents and Principals

FROM: Dr. Tony Bennett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DATE: August 21, 2009

SUBJECT: Selection of Mathematics Instructional Materials

As you are no doubt well aware, Indiana school corporations will choose instructional materials for all mathematics courses during the 2009-10 academic year. Since this process occurs once every six years in accordance with the state's textbook adoption cycle, decisions made this year will in all likelihood chart the course for math instruction in Indiana over the next decade.

With the recent update to Indiana's academic standards for math and the widespread acknowledgment that these standards are world-class, it is imperative that all classroom teachers and students are provided with the best possible learning materials. It is with that goal in mind that Indiana is engaging well-regarded, independent experts to develop a comprehensive tool that school districts can use to analyze the appropriateness and effectiveness of their instructional materials, including both traditional textbooks and the variety of alternative learning resources available today.

The **Indiana Department of Education**, in partnership with the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin, the I-STEM Resource Network and Indiana's Educational Service Centers, **will host six one-day instructional materials workshops at locations across the state during the month of October.** The workshops are tentatively scheduled for:

- October 7, 8
- October 13, 14, 15
- October 19 OR 20

Additional details about these sessions will be forthcoming, but we wanted to make you aware of this opportunity now, so these sessions can be incorporated into your local decision-making process. In the meantime, thank you as always for your efforts to support student learning in Indiana.